

# Historic Images of Tulare County

## **Central Business District**

Earliest images of the central business districts show:

- Dirt roads approximately three car widths across.
- Even setbacks for commercial (office and retail) buildings.
- Boardwalks. (wooden sidewalks).
- Wooden (and canvas) awnings/shed roofs supported by wood posts provide coverage over boardwalks.
- No vegetative landscaping (except for civic buildings)

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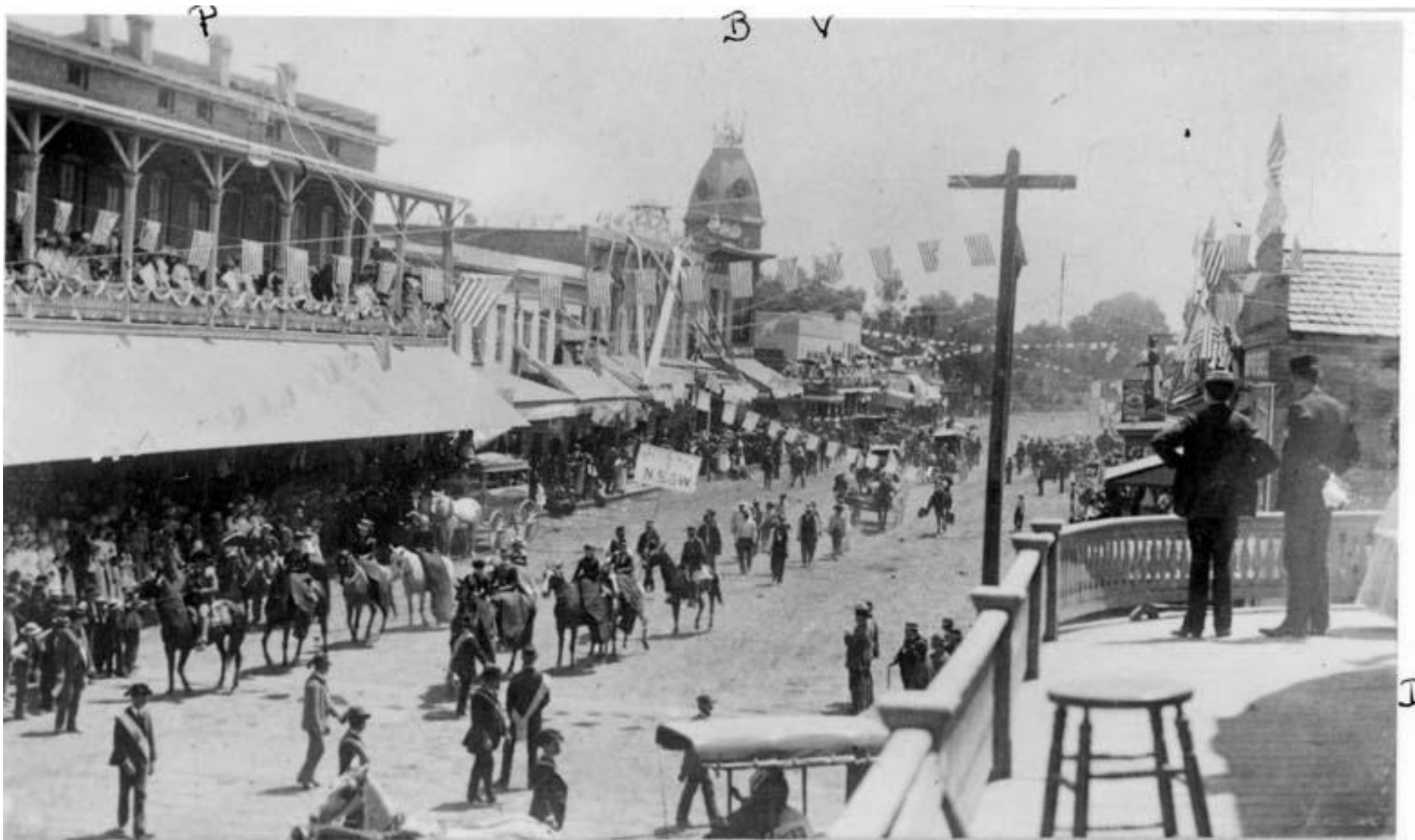




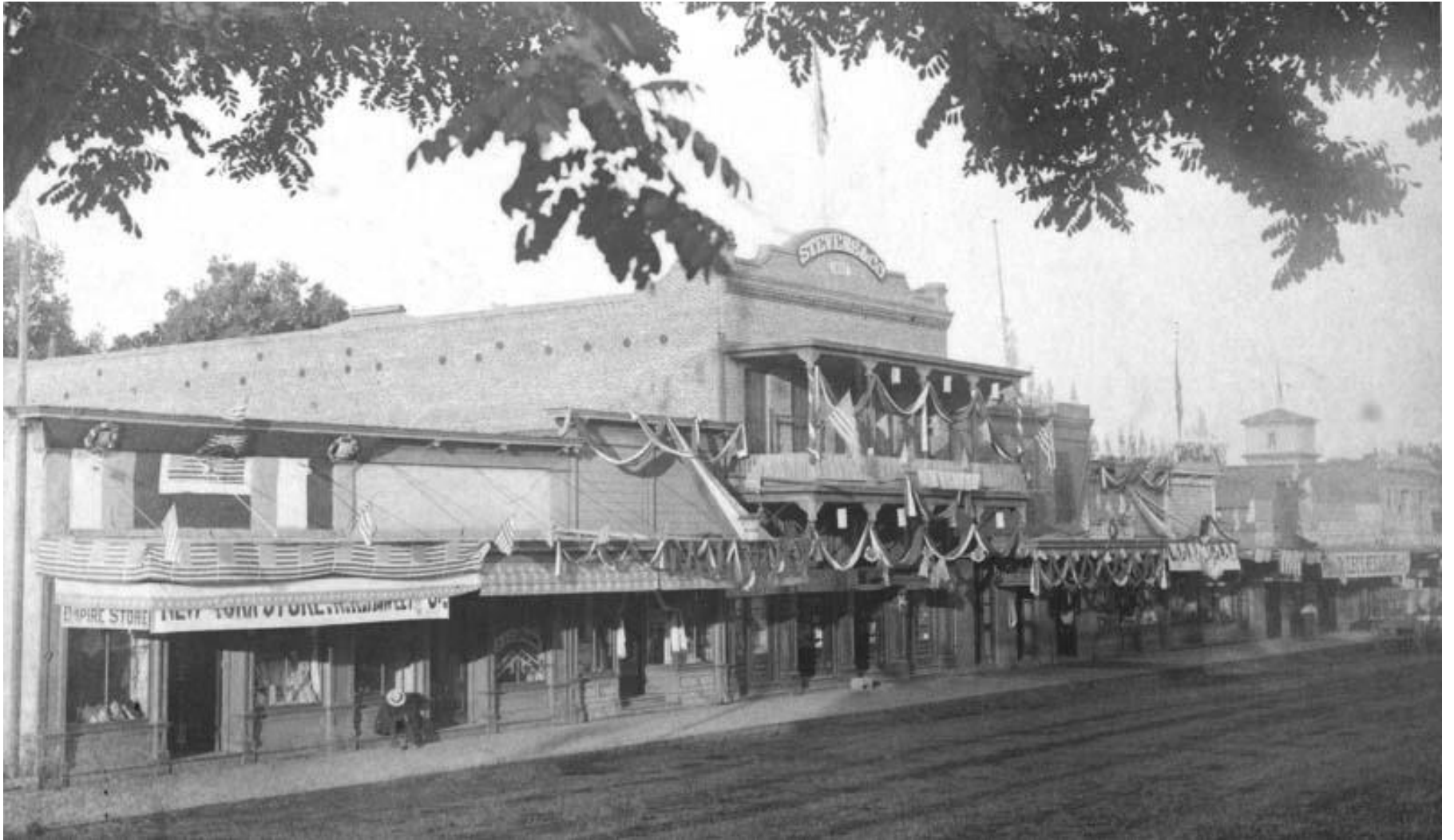
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A black and white photograph of a street scene in Tulare County. A row of vintage cars is parked along the curb in front of a brick building. The building has several signs, including "LA WHITING POWER AND ELECTRIC COMPANY" on the roof, "GARAGE" on the side, and "CHEVROLET" on a sign. A man is standing next to one of the cars.

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5.



*K & Tulare. 1888. From Court House.*

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13.x. H. N. from Tulare. 1884.



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Tulare County Free Library

5



FRENCH  
20 W. MAIN  
VISALIA, CAL.

# Historic Images of Tulare County



FRENCH  
920 W MAIN  
VISALIA, CAL.

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## Ancillary Service Area

Adjacent to the Central Business District typically one would find **ancillary service businesses** such as blacksmith shops and saddlers. It would develop linearly extending out from the town center, or would develop in a circular pattern. This area would:

- Not have boardwalks.
- Not have canopies.
- Have limited landscaping.
- Potentially not continue the same setbacks.

Following this zone, **transportation stations, and churches** would be often be seen. They may have:

- A narrower street.
- Increased landscaping.
- A pedestrian walkway.

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## **Residential Zone**

Historic residential areas in Tulare County were often seen with:

- Narrower dirt roads approximately two car widths across.
- Green landscaped setbacks, often with evenly spaced trees.
- Dirt walkways.
- White picket fences.
- Landscaped front yards, typically with trees.
- Light paint colors for the primary building components, with dark colors applied to ornamentation and window sash.

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Residence Street Scene, Tulare, California.



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*D. H. Rowland + Mather*



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## **Agricultural Zone**

Farms and associated outbuildings, structures, and agricultural fields, would follow the residential areas in Tulare County. They were often seen with:

- Narrower dirt roads.
- No established setbacks.
- No walkways.
- White picket fences.
- No discernable landscape patterns.
- Use of a variety of building materials.
- Often include temporary shelters for farm laborers.

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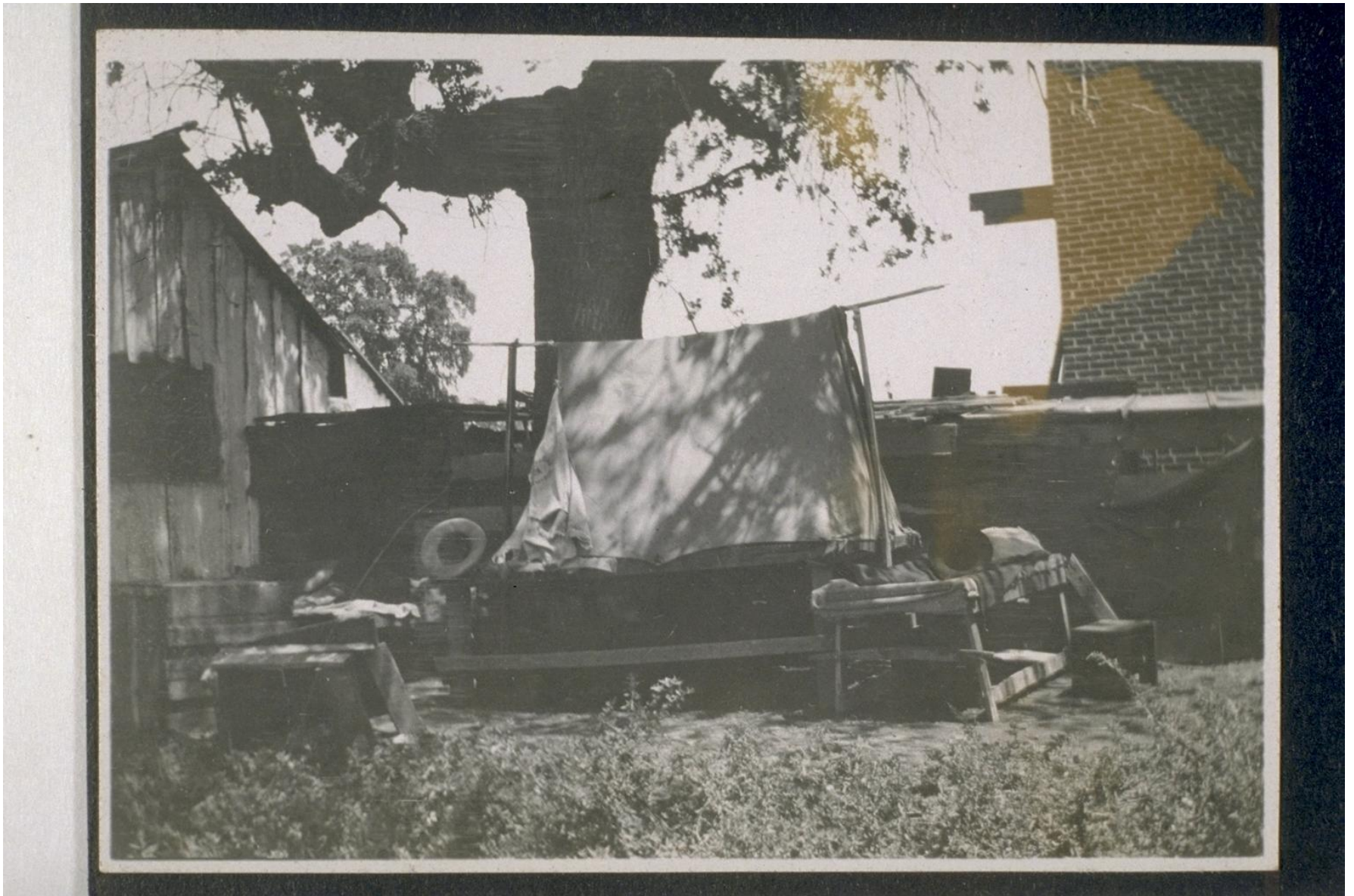


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### **Recommendations for “Mainstreet:**

- Relocate historic buildings in a linear pattern, extending from the current museum through to the New Museum.
- Design the dirt “street” to define the boundaries of the commercial and residential zones (wider for the commercial zone and narrower for the residential)
- Incorporate a boardwalk for the commercial area.
- Include awnings over the boardwalk.
- Plant no trees in front of the commercial buildings.
- Develop a landscaped (tree-lined) setback for the residential zone.
- Provide a dirt walkway in front of houses.
- Develop agricultural zone from the residential area to the New Museum.
  - Plant historic foodstuffs representing the agricultural history of Tulare County.
- Develop a Native American village outside of the New Museum.